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[Inclosure.]

*Number and causes of death in Ponce jurisdiction (city, playa, and surrounding country) during the month of July, 1901.*

PONCE, P. R., *August 10, 1901.*

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Diseases of— | | Tuberculosis | 6 |
| Digestive system | 36 | Dysentery (not epidemic) | 1 |
| Respiratory system | 9 | Erysipelas | 1 |
| Circulatory system | 4 | Metritis | 2 |
| Nervous system | 14 | Whooping cough | 1 |
| Anæmia, malnutrition, inanition | 15 | | |
| Malaria | 15 | Total | 107 |
| Typhoid fever | 3 | | |

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of deaths reported during July, 1901 (*a*) | 107 |
| Number of deaths reported during July, 1900 (*a*) | 537 |
| Number of births reported during July, 1901 (*a*) | 100 |
| Number of births reported during July, 1900 (*a*) | 139 |

PONCE, P. R., *August 6, 1901.*

SIR: Through the chief quarantine officer for Porto Rico, I have the honor to transmit herewith the quarantine and abstract of bills of health reports for the week ended August 3, 1901; also report of immigration and summary of transactions for the month of July, 1901. Five vessels were inspected and passed and 7 bills of health issued. The sanitary condition of Ponce remains about the same. The city being bankrupt, can not now make many sanitary improvements.

Respectfully,

W. W. KING,
*Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

[Inclosure.]

*Summary of transactions of Service during the month of July, 1901.*

PONCE, P. R., *August 1, 1901.*

| | |
|---|---|
| Total number of vessels inspected during July, 1901 | 11 |
| Total number of vessels inspected during July, 1900 | 20 |
| Total number of bills of health issued during July, 1901 | 22 |
| Total number of bills of health issued during July, 1900 | 16 |
| Number of passengers inspected during July, 1901 (incoming) | 131 |
| Number of passengers inspected during July, 1901 (in transit) | 504 |
| Number of crew inspected during July, 1901 | 681 |
| Number of vessels in quarantine during July, 1901 | 3 |
| Number of immigrants inspected during July, 1901 | 8 |
| Rejections | 0 |
| Number of pieces of baggage disinfected during July, 1901 | 59 |
| Number of pieces of baggage inspected and passed during July, 1901 | 277 |

*Suspected case at Mayaguez not yellow fever.*

SAN JUAN, P. R., *August 6, 1901.*

SIR: Referring to the inclosed clipping from the San Juan News of August 4, 1901, I have the honor to state that this case was carefully investigated by an inspector of the superior board of health and the diagnosis of yellow fever found to be in error.

The case was one of pernicious malarial fever, with hemorrhage from the mucous membranes of the stomach and bladder.

*a* These figures are for the city proper, the playa, and surrounding district of Ponce.

In this connection, I have to state that the native medical men of this island often make a diagnosis of yellow fever upon the presence of blood in the rejected stomach contents. Four such diagnoses have been made in various parts of the island during the past ten months, all of which have, upon investigation, proved to be in error.

Respectfully, H. S. MATHEWSON,
*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,*
*Chief Quarantine Officer for Porto Rico.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

*Mooring of the disinfecting barge Defender at San Juan.*

SAN JUAN, P. R., *August 6, 1901.*

SIR: Referring to my letter of June 24, 1901, reporting the safe arrival of the disinfecting barge *Defender* at this port, and stating that she would be furnished with permanent moorings as soon as possible, I have the honor to report that such moorings were put down upon the 3d instant.

The material necessary for this work was secured as follows: One can buoy, 1 3,000-pound anchor, 1 1,500-pound anchor, and several shackles were given the Service by Commander Berry, U. S. N., superintendent of the Light-House Service of the island of Porto Rico.

These articles were part of the equipment in possession of the Spanish light-house service at the time of the occupation of the island by the United States.

Thirty fathoms of 1½-inch chain were lent the Service by the receiver of the property of the defunct Spanish *Obras del Puerto.* These 30 fathoms of chain were receipted for by me in duplicate, one copy being filed in this office. Owing to certain technicalities this chain could only be loaned to the Service, but I am assured that it will never be called in.

The wook of putting down the moorings was done by the commanding officer of the tug *Uncas,* Captain McLoughlin, U. S. N., through the courtesy of the commandant of the San Juan Navy Yard, Captain Sterling, U. S. N. The moorings were put down about 500 yards off the wharf at Miraflores Island, in 3 fathoms of water, and the barge made fast, by shackle and chain, to the ring in the can buoy. The buoy is anchored on a "Y," the heavier anchor leading northeast and the lighter southeast, northeast being the direction from which hurricanes come in this latitude, and as they spend their force wearing around to the southeast.

In conclusion, it would appear that the barge is safely anchored.

Respectfully, H. S. MATHEWSON,
*Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.,*
*Chief Quarantine Officer for Porto Rico.*

The SURGEON-GENERAL,
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

*Inspection of immigrants at Ponce for the week ended August 3, 1901.*

PONCE, P. R., *August 3, 1901.*

SIR: Through the chief quarantine officer for Porto Rico, I submit herewith report of alien steerage passengers arriving at this port during the week ended August 3, 1901. July 30, American steamship *Philadelphia,* from Puerto Cabello, Curacao, and La Guayra, with 2 immigrants.